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BENNINGTON BRIEFS

News of the Town and Village Told Briefly for Busy Readers

Miss Helen Burns of Spring street is suffering with a severe cold.

"The Midnight Patrol" a Thomas H. Ince special at Liberty Theater today. Adv.

John Mulcahy has returned to New York after a visit of several days with friends in town.

Miss Marion Beecher of Pleasant street was with friends in Hoosick Falls for over the week end.

Clayton J. Kinsley returned Sunday from a few days visit with relatives and friends in the northern part of the state.

Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Young and S. Everett Harwood and two children returned Sunday from Boston where they spent Thanksgiving and the week end.

There will be a special meeting of the Executive Committee of the Bennington Post of the American Legion Monday evening, Dec. 1st in the Stark House rooms at nine o'clock.

Miss Evelyn Stockwell, who recently underwent an operation at the Putnam Memorial hospital for appendicitis was able to return Thursday to her home on East Main street.

One of the most exciting and swiftly moving dramas to be shown on the screen is the great special attraction "The Midnight Patrol" which "Select Pictures" announces for today at Liberty Theatre. Adv.

Paul C. Howe, who passed Thanksgiving and the week end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank E. Howe, returned Sunday to Lynn, Mass., where he is a student at the General Electric training school.

An important meeting of the settlers in the "Every Member Canvass" of the Second Congregational church will be held Tuesday night in the chapel at 7:30. The canvass is to come next Sunday afternoon.

Miss Beulah Whiteley returned Sunday to Plymouth, Mass. Miss Whiteley was in town to spend the Thanksgiving recess with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Whiteley of Main street. She is employed as stenographer in Plymouth.

The annual election of officers will take place Tuesday evening at the regular meeting of Catamount Commandery. It is therefore earnestly requested that all members of the Commandery make an effort to be present at this meeting at 8 o'clock.

Mrs. James Moore and daughter Miss Clara B. Moore, returned Saturday to their home in Cohoes after a brief stay here with relatives. Mrs. Moore's sister, Mrs. Richard Watson is ill and has been undergoing treatment at the Putnam Memorial hospital.

Attention! The Woman's Missionary society of the Second Congregational church will hold its meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 3rd at 3 o'clock instead of on Tuesday. Mrs. Laura H. Cole of North street is to be hostess and Mrs. Elmer H. Gaskill the leader. "China and Sanitation" is the subject.

Miss Helen Lalley, who was called here several days ago by the serious illness of her mother, Mrs. James Lalley of Bech street, returned Sunday to Philadelphia where she is employed as stenographer. Mrs. Lalley's condition is much improved and she was able Saturday to leave the hospital.

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16,547 BEFORE COURTS MARTIAL IN LAST YEAR

Of These 85 Per Cent Were Convicted Says Crowder in Annual Report

Washington, Nov. 27.—The rights of every man in the army from private to general are well defined and established by laws enacted by Congress, or by common law. Maj. Gen. Enoch Crowder, Judge Advocate General of the army today declared in his annual report. General Crowder made no specific reference to the attack upon his administration of that office by former Brig. Gen. Samuel T. Ansell, once his assistant, but in an appendix gave detailed statistics covering military courts martial, tending to disprove the accusation of severity.

During the last fiscal year 16,547 persons were tried before general courts martial and 85 per cent were convicted. Of the charges against officers, more than one-third comprised drunkenness, absent without leave or conduct unbecoming an officer; in the case of enlisted men one-half the total charges recorded were for desertion, absent without leave, disobedience and sleeping on post.

The report made public for the first time an official summary of the "capital" cases occurring in the army since April 6, 1917 the beginning of the war period.

Death penalties were adjudged in 145 cases from that date to June 30, 1919, and execution was consummated in 25 cases—10 in France and 25 in the United States. Murder was charged in two of these cases, murder and mutiny in 19; assault in 11 and assault and murder in three.

"In no case," according to the report, "was capital sentence for a purely military offense carried into execution."

Congressional Test.
We make it a rule never to tempt the cupidity of men, but as there must be exceptions to prove rules we hereby offer two bits reward for the apprehension of any reader of the Congressional Record in whom that publication stirs less enthusiasm than in us.—Houston Post.

LIKED HIGH-SOUNDING WORDS

Boyhood Friend of J. K. Batchelder Attempted to Preach

The erect figure of James K. Batchelder, is a familiar one on our streets. It is no exaggeration to say that he is a lawyer in native practice for over half a century has been and still is one of the leading lawyers in Vermont, and as a matter of fact one who can sustain himself in any court where ever he may appear. As a cross-country runner, he is easily recognized as one of the foremost in New England. This 20 had its inception back in boyhood days, for then his genial, affable ways enabled him to get what he desired without hurting the feelings of the one questioned.

Recently, Mr. Batchelder, being in a reminiscent mood related to the writer an incident which occurred far back in boyhood days when he was familiarly called by his associates, "Jim." Mr. Batchelder had a

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and many others which space forbids our listing.

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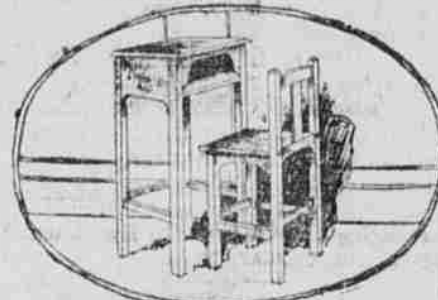
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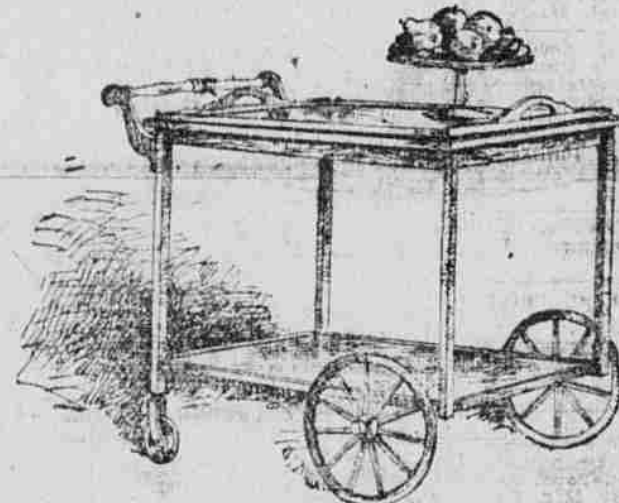
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Maurice E. Rudd

105 Valentine St.

friend much older than himself, a young man of fine character, uneducated, but very ambitious, and one who liked to appear in the limelight. This some day in the pulpit of the church in the town where he resided. In due time an opportunity came

when this laudable ambition could be gratified. This opportunity did not have to knock twice at the friend's door. Mr. Batchelder's father, knowing of the desire of his son's friend to speak in the old church, soon had occasion to help him. The minister who presided over the church, was to be absent on a certain Sunday and the elder Batchelder suggested to those who had charge of furnishing a supply that it would be a good idea to invite Mr. Blank to preach, which invitation was accepted with alacrity. The eventful Sunday came, and young Batchelder's friend stood in the pulpit. What his feelings were as he faced the congregation, "Whose lips may tell." He launched forth in his sermon or address with seeming confidence, when all at once there came forth as if propelled by a catapult the words, "The trine God." Young Batchelder was very much perplexed. He did not understand what his friend meant, or if he did, he made up his mind to ask the speaker what he meant by "The trine God." A few days later, young Batchelder, with his friend was out on a fishing trip. When lunch time came and they were sitting in the shade, the younger man asked his friend the meaning of the words mentioned above. His friend looked at him for a few moments and then very soberly said, "Jim, I didn't know what those words meant. I had read them in some paper or book and I thought they would sound well, and I thought when I stood in the church I would give it to them."

Long years have passed since that summer time. The elder friend has passed from these scenes of time, but Jim, after a long and distinguished career is seemingly as active and alert as ever; but undoubtedly there are times as he sits alone and looks down the vista of the past, there comes to his mind those happy fishing days and the words, "The trine God."

John V. D. S. Merrill.

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